

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 02048 240834Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-08 FRB-03 INR-10 IO-13 NEA-11 NSAE-00 ICA-11
OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00
OMB-01 SS-15 OIC-02 NSC-05 /118 W
-----097437 241733Z /45

R 231517Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3879
INFO AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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USOECD

USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EGEN, OECD, SW
SUBJECT: POSITIVE ADJUSTMENT POLICIES

REF: A) STATE 127824, B) STATE 127868

1. MFA OFFICIAL HAS RECEIVED WITH FAVOR THE POINTS MADE IN
REFTEL A (PARA 3) RE THE SCENARIO AND SECGEN NOTE ON POSITIVE
ADJUSTMENT POLICIES. HE WAS NOT YET AWARE WHO WILL REPRESENT
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SWEDEN AT THE MAY 29 MEETING, BUT WILL INFORM US WHEN A
DECISION IS TAKEN.

2. THE SWEDES, HE SAID, WELCOME A DISCUSSION ON THE NEED
FOR POSITIVE ADJUSTMENT POLICIES. THEY SHARE THE SECGEN'S
NOTE'S CONCERNS OVER CERTAIN CURRENT TRENDS WHICH, IF
CONTINUED, COULD RESTRICT TRADE. THE NOTE CORRECTLY

ASSESSES THE RESULTS FOR SMALLER COUNTRIES, AND IS VALID FOR THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH PLACE EMPHASIS ON EMPLOYMENT GOALS. THE SWEDES WOULD UNDERLINE ECONOMIC GROWTH AS THE MAJOR OVERALL NEED; GROWTH SOLVES MANY PROBLEMS, BOTH STRUCTURAL AND CYCLICAL. WHERE THERE IS PERHAPS A DIFFERENCE OF EMPHASIS ON THE SWEDES' PART IS ON THE GENERAL VERSUS SELECTIVE MEASURES ISSUE. THE SWEDES THINK IT BEST TO CONTEMPLATE A MIX OF BOTH. "WE TILT TO A BALANCE OF BOTH SELECTIVE AND GENERAL MEASURES." HE THOUGHT IT POSSIBLE TO AVOID SERIOUS DISTORTIONS THROUGH A CAREFUL MIX OF MEASURES.

3. COMMENT. THE GOS UNDER THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS AND THE PRESENT COALITION GOVERNMENT HAS USED SELECTIVE MEASURES AS A MATTER OF POLICY IN EMPLOYMENT MAINTENANCE IN DISTRESSED INDUSTRIES OR COMPANIES. THERE HAS BEEN CRITICISM BY BUSINESS LEADERS IN SOME CASES, BUT THE SUPPORT FOR SELECTIVE MEASURES IS WIDESPREAD. IN OTHER WORDS, THEY HAVE NOT PRESUMED AGAINST SELECTIVE MEASURES IN FAVOR OF GENERAL MEASURES AS OVERALL POLICY (PARA 6 OF REFTEL B).
KENNEDY-MINOTT

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Message Attributes

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